vals to 100% Export Oriented Projects which are located in the area earmarked, for the 100% Export Oriented Units cluster to be developed by the State Gov-! eminent.

(c) The following determinants were considered while taking a decision to establish new Export Processing Zones at Madras, Cochin, Noida, Falta and Visakhapatnam :

(i) proximity of an international seaport or airport;

(ii) existence of an industrial infrastructure;

(iii) availability of commercial in- J frastructure such as banking, insurance warehousing etc;

(iv) linkage with hinterland for inputs;

(v) existence of communication facilities;

(vi) availability of community infrastructure (housing, health, municipal services etc.).

(d) and (e) Some suggestions had been received for the development of Free Port in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Gov ernment have since decided not to estab lish a Free Port in the Andaman & Nico bar Islands.

**Permission to Karnataka Government for Financing of Irrigation Projects through Public Bonds**

*417. SHRI J. P. JAVALI • Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to, state :

(a) whether Karnataka Government has sought permission of the Central Government to raise resources through public bonds for financing irrigation and power projects; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present scheme of Public Sector Bonds is confined to Central Public Sector Undertakings

**Buy-back Agreement for Newsprint with Kenya**

*418. SHRI SYED S1BTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any buy-back agreement for newsprint has been signed with Kenya;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment of requirement of newsprint has since been made; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

.(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Registrar of Newsprint for India has estimated the total requirement of Newsprint for the year 1990-91 at 5.65 lakh tonnes.

**Extension of Scheme of Group Insurance by LIC *to* Handloom Wearers in Prirate and Cooperative Sectors**

*419. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH:
I Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
i to state : . '

(a) whether the scheme of group ainsu ranee suggested by the LIO with the.ap-j proval of Government would be extended to cover handloom weavers in the private I sector alongwith the handloom weavers in | cooperative sector;

(b) whether any representation has j been received proposing certain modifica-| tions in the scheme to help handloom weavers;

(c) if so, what are the modifications proposed; and

(d) what action has been taken thereon in the light of the modification proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : (a) to (d) As the administration of a Group Insurance Scheme requires a nodal agency for